February 3, 2003

Federal Communications Commission Commission Secretary, Ms. Marlene H. Dortch 445 112<sup>th</sup> Street SW CY-B402 Washington, DC 20554

Re: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Secretary Dortch and Commissioners:

As President and CEO of the Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute, a non profit corporation, I am writing to support SBC Ameritech-Michigan's 271 application, and their endeavor to provide "Long Distance" service in Michigan. I believe that true competition is healthy for the American economy, and it's pretty obvious with all the competition here in Michigan that customers clearly have a choice for local telephone service. The same should be available for long distance service as well.

SBC Ameritech-Michigan is a great asset to this community and I am strongly urging our elected officials to support the passage of SBC Ameritech-Michigan's "Long Distance" application. SBC has done much to support the charitable efforts of the Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute, and the community in which we serve.

Thank you for considering my petition on behalf of SBC Ameritech-Michigan's application. As a consumer and business leader, I understand the importance of fair and healthy competition in all industries. I am certain that your deliberations will result in an equitable competitive environment for Michigan consumers.

Again, thank you for your consideration.

With best regards,

Cathy McClelland President and CEO